

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /065 W

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R 121319Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8708

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINSHASA 5867

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, CG, MR, SS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH

1. FOLLOWING VISIT BY MAURITANIAN EMISSARY JULY 2, PRESIDENT MOKTAR OULD DADDAH ARRIVED KINSHASA JULY 6 FOR TWO DAY VISIT BEFORE RETURNING HOME FROM OAU MEETING. DURING STAY, OULD DADDAH MET WITH MOBUTU. IN AIRPORT STATEMENTS BOTH PRESIDENTS STRESSED FRIENDSHIP EXISTING BETWEEN TWO NATIONS. OVERALL, VISIT RECEIVED NORMAL PRESS COVERAGE.

2. IN CONTRAST, EARLIER VISIT BY MAURITANIAN ENVOY WAS GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE CONCENTRATING ON CONDEMNATION OF ALGERIAN "AGGRESSION" IN WESTERN SAHARA AND VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PROBLEM. YET, ONLY DAY BEFORE, MOBUTU IN INTERVIEW WITH AZAP HAD EMPHASIZED ZAIRE'S GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL THREE NATIONS, ALGERIA, MOROCCO, AND MAURITANIA AND DESIRE TO SEE AN AMICABLE SOLUTION TO WESTERN SAHARAN PROBLEM.

3. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO REPORTS WITHIN GOZ, OULD DADDAH'S VISIT WAS HASTILY ARRANGED AFFAIR. PURPORTEDLY SPECIAL ENVOY WHO HAD COME TO KINSHASA WITH PRIVATE MESSAGE FROM OULD
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DADDAH MADE NO MENTION OF LATTER'S POSSIBLE BRIEF STAY IN ZAIRE.

ALTHOUGH OULD DADDAH NOTED FOR DROPPING IN UNEXPECTANTLY ON HIS WAY BACK HOME FROM OAU MEETINGS, STOP-OVER ALSO PRESUMABLY DUE TO PERCEIVED SHIFT IN GOZ POSITION ON WESTERN SAHARA IN LIGHT OF MOBUTU'S PUBLIC STATEMENT, AS WELL AS NEED TO SEEK REASSURANCES IN WAKE OF OAU SUMMIT AND PENDING EXTRAORDINARY MEETING. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO EVIDENCE GOZ HAS MOVED AWAY FROM STRONG SUPPORT OF MOROCCAN/MAURITANIAN CLAIMS ON WESTERN SAHARA AND OULD DADDAH PRESUMABLY GOT SUCH ASSURANCES IN PRIVATE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KINSHA05867
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760267-1193
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760769/aaaacigg.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <01 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, CG, MR, SS, OAU, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO), (OULD DADDAH, MOKTAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006